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THE GAZETTE COMPANY,
Las Vegas, N. M.

R. W. WEBB, Editor and Manager

SUNDAY, - DECEMBER 7, 1884.

Our capitalists should construct a woolen mill and tannery.

ONE of the busiest days of the year was yesterday. All our merchants had thriving trades.

How about stock-yards? There is abundance of water and range to make this a desirable shipping point.

We hope that high federal official will not return to Santa Fe without settling with the widow lady for room rent, due now nearly two years.

It may be that the court has heard from Washington the past few days, hence its sudden indifference as to the crowded condition of the docket.

We were of opinion the special term of court begun here this week would last till the 15th, and some considerable business be disposed of; but, failing to convict Maney, we presume the court became disgusted and quit.

SEVERAL parties we wot of, and not mentioned in the list of cases, do not feel very comfortable since the publication of suits to be commenced by Col. Prichard to cancel certain land entries. Their discomfiture will increase as time rolls on.

SOME of the papers of the Territory are very much concerned about our Democracy. We declared ourself after the nomination of Blaine, got there, and propose to stick. Some of our contemporaries no doubt wish they had done the same.

THREE-FINGERED CHARLEY, of the Deming Tribune, mourneth much over the waning fortunes of his Santa Fe bosses, and sighs regretfully over never-to-be-again tertio-millennial fees and salary and compilation compensation. The way of the transgressor catches no moss, Charley.

THE Springer Stockman should have less to say about the habitual carrying of revolvers by cowboys and more to say about the suppression of the liquor traffic. The latter kills and certainly damns more people in New Mexico than the former.—Optic.
Good, Russ, keep it up. Hit 'em again. Hire a hall. You'll bag that check yet.

THE announced in the Taos Herald and Optic, we never knew that newspaper enterprise was measured by the number and size of roosters displayed in its columns. To such papers as these cuts afford a pleasing, enlivening contrast from weekly or daily dullness and stupidity, some excuse attaches for their use. THE GAZETTE can make itself understood and appreciated without the aid of a rooster interpreter.

AT the expiration of thirty-six years and five months from the time of laying the corner stone of the Washington monument foundation the capstone was placed and the shaft declared completed. This important event took place yesterday, a full report of which will be found in our telegraphic columns. The Washington monument is a standing, abbreviated joke and reproach no longer, but a towering, completed fact and a national glory.

IN some respects the leasing of the public domain in arid sections might work injury to small ranchmen and cattle owners. It is readily assented this would be the case where water is easily attainable and only small means required for the sinking of wells and the erection of tanks, etc. It will be as readily conceded, we believe, that small owners of live stock, as a rule, are not financially able to sink wells upon our plains and otherwise prepare for the care of stock thereon. Our idea of the lease system, recommended by the late cattle convention, is for the reclaiming large tracts of new unavailable grazing sections, and by no means to deprive

of land or interfere with the small operator upon ground naturally supplied with water. If a company organize for the purpose of leasing, say, 500,000 acres of the vast unused plains of this Territory, and expend thousands of dollars in a system of wells, thereby demonstrating the feasibility of a water supply, is it not better that such a limited lease issue, the land be reclaimed and the government derive a revenue therefrom than that it should lie idle year after year of service to none? Unless assured of the peaceable, quiet possession of certain quantities of land for a certain length of time, no organization will be so silly as to expend vast sums in its improvement simply to demonstrate the fact that water is attainable. A company might now sink a well on the plains owned by the government and unless able to purchase at the regular rate, \$1.25 per acre (an absurdity), such grazing land as they desired, could be interfered with on an adjoining quarter section by any citizen squatter, and would be simply for the sake of a "pinch." As before stated, small operators will never go to the expense of solving the water problem upon our arid plains, hence would it not be better to lease them for a limited term of years to capitalists able and willing to make the experiment, and if successful what harm in the government rewarding them with the lease subsidy. Millions of acres are given railroads for "opening up" a country, millions of dollars are given steamship lines in mail contracts for the purpose of "opening up" trade and adding to our wealth and influence, and thus in a thousand ways the government aids enterprises for the public good. What harm then in a limited lease and income in exchange for the demonstrating the feasibility of reclaiming the arid plains of the west. It will never be done by the government direct, as witness the numerous failures in this direction, notably the Pope expedition; the poor can not, so it is lease and pave the way for future tight settlements or let the plains remain idle as now for generations. Let's agitate the subject. Next.

NEW MEXICO AND THE WEST.

Mr. Herbert Howe Bancroft, of California, who for the past thirty years has been gathering material for, and writing the history of the western part of North America, extends his field to embrace the whole Pacific seaboard from the Isthmus of Darien to Alaska including all of Central America and Mexico, and extending east far enough to include Texas, New Mexico, Colorado and the Territories north.

A large portion of the western work is already done and Mr. Bancroft is now making personal investigations throughout this part of the field of his literary labors. Assisting Mr. Bancroft in his work in New Mexico, is Mr. A. Gilmore, a thoroughly competent and experienced journalist, who will remain in the field two or three years visiting the prominent citizens and collecting material.

The manner in which Mr. Bancroft has achieved this vast undertaking is of no small interest to all lovers of progress. Emigrating to California when quite young, he established at San Francisco a publishing house, which prospered until it became second to none in the west. He had not been long thus engaged before his attention was called to the great amount of valuable historic material which was passing away with the lives of the pioneers and early settlers of the several sections of this great west, and he became possessed of a desire to save some of it, thinking it a work which would be highly appreciated by future generations, if not wholly so by the present one to which all these things were more familiar and common place. Therefore, besides gathering all he could find on the subject, both in the United States and Mexico, making several trips to Europe for that purpose he has taken down in writing from the lips of hundreds of living witnesses their experiences, and has embodied them in the history of the country which he is writing.

And this is his object in coming to New Mexico at this time, to gather further data of this rich and rapidly growing Territory, which will enable him properly to add its history to the series of histories, to the writing of which he is devoting his life and fortune. It is pure, first-class history, which Mr. Bancroft is writing, without any bias of religion or politics, and with no other object in view than the satisfaction of doing well a worthy work. There certainly can be no mercenary motive, for he has spent several times more money than he can possibly come back to him. We wish him every success in New Mexico and have no doubt that his efforts here will be greatly conducive to the general welfare of the Territory.

To show in what estimation Mr. Bancroft's historical efforts are regarded throughout the world, we make a few extracts from notices of his works. Says the London Times:

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He has investigated and criticised with no little skill the enormous mass of official documents which in different ways relate to his subject; and he has digested the results of his laborious toil into a narrative clear, logical and attractive.

Says the Edinburg Review:

Without such preliminary work as that which has been done by Mr. Bancroft, a history would be impossible.

From the New York Tribune:

Every reader must admire the single-heartedness with which he devotes himself to the investigation of facts. His volumes are really a marvel of research and discrimination. Although he does not conceal his consciousness of a mission, he shows no trace of the credulity with which specialists are apt to pursue the inquiries to which they have devoted their lives. His sound judgment is no less apparent on the pages of his work than his indefatigable diligence and supreme self-devotedness. No one but an enthusiast could grapple with such a task, but his enthusiasm is without weakness, and is inspired by the pure love of knowledge. Hence it is of the quality demanded by one of the foremost literary enterprises of the day.

Says the Boston Journal:

He is the Herbert Spencer of historians. His diligence in collecting data, his painstaking in arrangement, his accuracy of statement, as well as the vastness of his undertakings, contribute to give him a place among historians similar to that occupied by Mr. Spencer among sociologists. His judgments are just, his conclusions follow from the facts, and his narrative is almost invariably of unflinching interest. Not only do the American people and the historical student owe to the author a large debt of gratitude for this work, which one not possessed of enthusiasm and historical genius, as well as patience, would never have undertaken; but many governments of Europe, whose explorers set foot on the Pacific coast, should feel the obligations under which they are placed.

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